

Attorney Docket No.: 4175-0101P Client Docket No.: E.HS.9904.US

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1

2

1

2

1. A method for adjusting colors of an image, in particular of an X-ray image in which an object (1) having sub-objects (2, 3, 4) shown in different colors is depicted, comprising the steps of:

determining an absorption attribute of a plurality of the sub-objects (3, 4);

assigning a specific color to each of the plurality of sub-objects (3, 4) having a same absorption attribute, each specific color being different from each other;

adjusting a brightness level of one of the specific colors by adjusting each pixel thereof with a determined color proportion of at least one of red, green or blue (R, G, B), whereby the adjustment of the brightness level takes into consideration the sensitivity of the human eye; and displaying at least the plurality of sub-objects (3, 4) having the same absorption attributes

on a monitor (8), whereby adjustment of the brightness level of one of the specific colors causes the human eye to view at least the plurality of sub-objects (3,4) as having equal brightness levels.

- 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein color proportions (R, G, B) are stored in support tables of a computer (7).
- 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the intensity of the specific colors is increased or decreased for the brightness adjustment.

4

5



Attorney Docket No.: 4175-0101P Client Docket No.: E.HS.9904.US

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein prior to the adjusting step, the method further comprises:

determining one average atomic number of each of the at least the plurality of sub-objects

(3, 4) from two different energies; and

assigning the specific colors to the at least plurality of sub-objects based upon their

6 respective average atomic number.

~<del>}</del>